

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A non-aqueous suspension, comprising:

~~(a) one or more water-soluble polymers;~~

~~(b) (a) polyalkylene glycol; and~~

(b) one or more water-soluble polymers dispersed in the polyalkylene glycol; and

(c) a suspension stabilizer comprising an hydrogenated castor oil or wax.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The suspension according to claim 1 wherein the water-soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of guar, hydroxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, cationic guar, hydrophobically modified guar, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified cationic guar, pectin, alginates, locust bean gum, gum arabic, gum acacia, carrageenan, hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl cellulose, alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, starch, gum tragacanth, gum karaya, tara gum, xanthan gum, welan gum, succinoglucans, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacrylates, and polyacrylamides.

Claim 3 (original): The suspension according to claim 1 wherein the water-soluble polymer is xanthan gum.

Claim 4 (original): The suspension according to claim 1 wherein the water-soluble polymer is guar gum.

Claim 5 (original): The suspension according to claim 1 wherein the water-soluble polymer is cationic-, hydroxyalkyl-, carboxyalkyl-, or carboxyalkylhydroxyalkyl-derivatized guar gum.

Claim 6 (original): The suspension according to claim 1 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The suspension according to claim 1 wherein the polyalkylene glycol includes a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 8 (original): The suspension according to claim 7 wherein the hydrated thickening silicas are selected from the group consisting of colloidal gel silicas and hydrophobic derivatives thereof.

Claim 9 (original): The suspension according to claim 1 wherein the polyalkylene glycol has a molecular weight of less than 1000.

Claim 10 (original): The suspension according to claim 1 further comprising one or more of the following additive materials selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, buffers, surfactants, demulsifiers, non-emulsifiers, foaming agents, antifoaming agents, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, polymer preservatives, bactericides, antioxidants, fluid loss additives, water miscible co-solvents, formation clay stabilizers, crosslinkers, polymer breakers, and gel breakers.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A non-aqueous suspension, comprising:

- (a) about 0.1 to about 75 percent by weight water-soluble polymer;
- (b) about 20 to about 99.8 percent by weight polyalkylene glycol; and
- (c) about 0.1 to about 5 percent by weight hydrogenated castor oil or wax.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The suspension according to claim 11 wherein the water-soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of guar, hydroxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, cationic guar, hydrophobically modified guar, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified cationic guar, pectin, alginates, locust bean gum, gum arabic, gum acacia, carrageenan, hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl cellulose, alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified alkyl ethers of cellulose,

hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, starch, gum tragacanth, gum karaya, tara gum, xanthan gum, welan gum, succinoglucans, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacrylates, and polyacrylamides.

Claim 13 (original): The suspension according to claim 11 wherein the water-soluble polymer is xanthan gum.

Claim 14 (original): The suspension according to claim 11 wherein the water-soluble polymer is guar gum.

Claim 15 (original): The suspension according to claim 11 wherein the water-soluble polymer is cationic-, hydroxyalkyl-, carboxyalkyl-, or carboxyalkylhydroxyalkyl-derivatized guar gum.

Claim 16 (original): The suspension according to claim 11 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The suspension according to claim 11 wherein the polyalkylene glycol further comprises between about 0.1 and 2.0% by weight of the polyalkylene glycol of a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 18 (original): The suspension according to claim 17 wherein the hydrated thickening silicas are selected from the group consisting of colloidal gel silicas and hydrophobic derivatives thereof.

Claim 19 (original): The suspension according to claim 11 wherein the polyalkylene glycol has a molecular weight of less than 1000.

Claim 20 (original): The suspension according to claim 11 further comprising one or more of the following additive materials selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, buffers, surfactants, demulsifiers, non-emulsifiers, foaming agents, antifoaming agents, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, polymer preservatives, bactericides, antioxidants, fluid loss additives, water miscible co-solvents, formation clay stabilizers, crosslinkers, polymer breakers, and gel breakers.

Claim 21 (previously presented): A non-aqueous suspension, comprising:

- (a) about 0.1 to about 40.0 percent by weight xanthan gum;
- (b) about 55 to about 99.8 percent by weight polyalkylene glycol; and
- (c) about 0.1 to about 5 percent by weight hydrogenated castor wax.

Claim 22 (original): The suspension according to claim 21 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The suspension according to claim 21 wherein the polyalkylene glycol further comprises between about 0.1 and 2.0% by weight of the polyalkylene glycol of a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 24 (original): The suspension according to claim 23 wherein the hydrated thickening silicas are selected from the group consisting of colloidal gel silicas and hydrophobic derivatives thereof.

Claim 25 (original): The suspension according to claim 21 wherein the polyalkylene glycol has a molecular weight of less than 1000.

Claim 26 (original): The suspension according to claim 21 further comprising one or more of the following additive materials selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, buffers, surfactants, demulsifiers, non-emulsifiers, foaming agents, antifoaming agents, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, polymer preservatives, bactericides, antioxidants, fluid loss additives, water miscible co-solvents, formation clay stabilizers, crosslinkers, polymer breakers, and gel breakers.

Claim 27 (previously presented): A non-aqueous suspension, comprising:

- (a) about 0.1 to about 75 percent by weight guar gum;
- (b) about 20 to about 99.8 percent by weight polyalkylene glycol; and
- (c) about 0.1 to about 5 percent by weight hydrogenated castor wax.

Claim 28 (original): The suspension according to claim 27 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The suspension according to claim 27 wherein the polyalkylene glycol further comprises between about 0.1 and 2.0% by weight of the polyalkylene glycol of a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 30 (original): The suspension according to claim 29 wherein the hydrated thickening silicas are selected from the group consisting of colloidal gel silicas and hydrophobic derivatives thereof.

Claim 31 (original): The suspension according to claim 27 wherein the polyalkylene glycol has a molecular weight of less than 1000.

Claim 32 (original): The suspension according to claim 27 further comprising one or more of the following additive materials selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, buffers, surfactants, demulsifiers, non-emulsifiers, foaming agents, antifoaming agents, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, polymer preservatives, bactericides, antioxidants, fluid loss additives, water miscible co-solvents, formation clay stabilizers, crosslinkers, polymer breakers, and gel breakers.

Claim 33 (previously presented): A non-aqueous suspension, comprising:

- (a) about 0.1 to about 40 percent by weight cationic-, hydroxyalkyl-, carboxyalkyl-, or carboxyalkylhydroxyalkyl-derivatized guar gum;
- (b) about 55 to about 99.8 percent by weight polyalkylene glycol; and
- (c) about 0.1 to about 5 percent by weight hydrogenated castor wax.

Claim 34 (original): The suspension according to claim 33 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The suspension according to claim 33 wherein the polyalkylene glycol further comprises between about 0.1 and 2.0% by weight of the polyalkylene glycol of a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 36 (original): The suspension according to claim 35 wherein the hydrated thickening silicas are selected from the group consisting of colloidal gel silicas and hydrophobic derivatives thereof.

Claim 37 (original): The suspension according to claim 33 wherein the polyalkylene glycol has a molecular weight of less than 1000.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The suspension according to claim 33 further comprising one or more of the following additive materials selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, buffers, surfactants, demulsifiers, non-emulsifiers, foaming agents, antifoaming agents, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, polymer preservatives, bactericides, antioxidants, fluid loss additives, water miscible co-solvents, formation clay stabilizers, crosslinkers, polymer breakers, and gel breakers.

Claim 39 (currently amended): A composition comprising environmental chemical, agricultural chemical, paper chemical, textile chemical, construction or building product ingredient, cosmetic ingredients, hair spray, gelatin substitute, ceramic material, cleaning composition, polish, ink, fire-fighting chemical, metal-working chemical, adhesive chemical, explosive chemical, flocculent, water treatment compound, binder chemical for sand, ores or coal or oil field chemical which includes a non-aqueous suspension, comprising:

~~(a) one or more water-soluble polymers;~~

~~(b) (a) polyalkylene glycol; and~~

(b) one or more water-soluble polymers dispersed in the polyalkylene glycol; and

(c) a suspension stabilizer comprising an hydrogenated castor oil or wax.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 39 wherein the water-soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of guar, hydroxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, cationic guar, hydrophobically modified guar, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified cationic guar, pectin, alginates, locust bean gum, gum arabic, gum acacia, carrageenan, hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl cellulose, alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified alkyl ethers of cellulose,

hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, starch, gum tragacanth, gum karaya, tara gum, xanthan gum, welan gum, succinoglucans, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacrylates, and polyacrylamides.

Claim 41 (original): The composition according to claim 39 wherein the water-soluble polymer is xanthan gum.

Claim 42 (original): The composition according to claim 39 wherein the water-soluble polymer is guar gum.

Claim 43 (original): The composition according to claim 39 wherein the water-soluble polymer is cationic-, hydroxyalkyl-, carboxyalkyl-, or carboxyalkylhydroxyalkyl-derivatized guar gum.

Claim 44 (original): The composition according to claim 39 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 39 wherein the polyalkylene glycol includes a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 46 (original): The composition according to claim 45 wherein the hydrated thickening silicas are selected from the group consisting of colloidal gel silicas and hydrophobic derivatives thereof.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 39 wherein the polyalkylene glycol has a molecular weight of less than 1000.

Claim 48 (original): The composition according to claim 39 further comprising one or more of the following additive materials selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, buffers, surfactants, demulsifiers, non-emulsifiers, foaming agents, antifoaming agents, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, polymer preservatives, bactericides, antioxidants, fluid loss additives, water miscible co-solvents, formation clay stabilizers, crosslinkers, polymer breakers, and gel breakers.

Claim 49 (original): A composition of a polymer solution or dispersion comprising:

(a) non-aqueous suspension from about 0.001 to about 10 percent by weight of the total weight, the non-aqueous suspension, comprising:

(i) one or more water-soluble polymers,

(ii) polyalkylene glycol, and

(iii) a suspension stabilizer comprising an hydrogenated castor oil or wax; and

(b) water from about 90 to about 99.999 percent by weight of the total weight.

Claim 50 (original): The composition of claim 49 wherein the non-aqueous suspension comprises from about 0.25% by weight to about 5% by weight of the polymer solution and water comprises the balance.

Claim 51 (original): The composition of claim 49 wherein the polymer solution or dispersion is hydrated and subsequently crosslinked to form a gel with an aluminum, antimony, boron, titanium, or zirconium compound, complex, or chelate, or some combination aluminum, antimony, boron, titanium, and zirconium compounds, complexes, or chelates.

Claim 52 (original): The composition of claim 49 wherein one or more of the following additive materials selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, buffers, surfactants, demulsifiers, non-emulsifiers, foaming agents, antifoaming agents, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, polymer preservatives, bactericides, antioxidants, fluid loss additives, water miscible co-solvents, formation clay stabilizers, crosslinkers, polymer breakers, and gel breakers are incorporated into the hydrated polymer solution or dispersion.

Claim 53 (original): The composition of claim 49 wherein the water is seawater, or a solution of sodium chloride, potassium chloride, or ammonium chloride, or a mixture thereof, in water.

Claim 54 (previously presented): The composition of claim 49 wherein the non-aqueous suspension comprises:

(a) about 0.1 to about 75 percent by weight water-soluble polymer;

(b) about 20 to about 99.8 percent by weight polyalkylene glycol; and

(c) about 0.1 to about 5 percent by weight hydrogenated castor oil or wax.



Claim 55 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 54 wherein the polyalkylene glycol further comprises between about 0.1 and 2.0% by weight of the polyalkylene glycol of a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 56 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 49 wherein the water-soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of guar, hydroxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, cationic guar, hydrophobically modified guar, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified cationic guar, pectin, alginates, locust bean gum, gum arabic, gum acacia, carrageenan, hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl cellulose, alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, starch, gum tragacanth, gum karaya, tara gum, xanthan gum, welan gum, succinoglucans, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacrylates, and polyacrylamides.

Claim 57 (original): The composition according to claim 49 wherein the water-soluble polymer is xanthan gum.

Claim 58 (original): The composition according to claim 49 wherein the water-soluble polymer is guar gum.

Claim 59 (original): The composition according to claim 49 wherein the water-soluble polymer is cationic-, hydroxyalkyl-, carboxyalkyl-, or carboxyalkylhydroxyalkyl-derivatized guar gum.

Claim 60 (original): The composition according to claim 49 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 61 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 49 wherein the polyalkylene glycol includes a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 62 (original): The composition according to claim 61 wherein the hydrated thickening silicas are selected from the group consisting of colloidal gel silicas and hydrophobic derivatives thereof.

Claim 63 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 49 wherein the polyalkylene glycol has a molecular weight of less than 1000.

Claim 64 (previously presented): A composition of a polymer solution or dispersion comprising environmental chemical, agricultural chemical, paper chemical, textile chemical, construction or building product ingredient, cosmetic ingredients, hair spray, gelatin substitute, ceramic material, cleaning composition, polish, ink, fire-fighting chemical, metal-working chemical, adhesive chemical, explosive chemical, flocculent, water treatment compound, binder chemical for sand, ores or coal or oil field chemical which includes a non-aqueous suspension, comprising:

(a) non-aqueous suspension from about 0.001 to about 10 percent by weight of the total weight, the non-aqueous suspension, comprising:

(i) one or more water-soluble polymers,

(ii) polyalkylene glycol, and

(iii) a suspension stabilizer comprising an hydrogenated castor oil or wax; and

(b) water from about 90 to about 99.999 percent by weight of the total weight.

Claim 65 (previously presented): The composition of claim 64 wherein the non-aqueous suspension comprises:

(a) about 0.1 to about 75 percent by weight water-soluble polymer;

(b) about 20 to about 99.8 percent by weight polyalkylene glycol; and

(c) about 0.1 to about 5 percent by weight hydrogenated castor oil or wax.

Claim 66 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 65 wherein the polyalkylene glycol further comprises between about 0.1 and 2.0% by weight of the polyalkylene glycol of a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 67 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 64 wherein the water-soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of guar, hydroxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, cationic guar, hydrophobically modified guar, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified cationic guar, pectin, alginates, locust bean gum, gum arabic, gum acacia, carrageenan, hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl cellulose, alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, starch, gum tragacanth, gum karaya, tara gum, xanthan gum, welan gum, succinoglucans, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacrylates, and polyacrylamides.

Claim 68 (original): The composition according to claim 64 wherein the water-soluble polymer is xanthan gum.

Claim 69 (original): The composition according to claim 65 wherein the water-soluble polymer is guar gum.

Claim 70 (original): The composition according to claim 65 wherein the water-soluble polymer is cationic-, hydroxyalkyl-, carboxyalkyl-, or carboxyalkylhydroxyalkyl-derivatized guar gum.

Claim 71 (original): The composition according to claim 64 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 72 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 64 wherein the polyalkylene glycol includes a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 73 (original): The composition according to claim 72 wherein the hydrated thickening silicas are selected from the group consisting of colloidal gel silicas and hydrophobic derivatives thereof.

Claim 74 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 64 wherein the polyalkylene glycol has a molecular weight of less than 1000.

Claim 75 (original): The composition according to claim 64 further comprising one or more of the following additive materials selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, buffers, surfactants, demulsifiers, non-emulsifiers, foaming agents, antifoaming agents, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, polymer preservatives, bactericides, antioxidants, fluid loss additives, water miscible co-solvents, formation clay stabilizers, crosslinkers, polymer breakers, and gel breakers.

Claim 76 (currently amended): A method of formulating a non-aqueous suspension, comprising the steps of:

dispersing one or more water soluble polymers and a hydrogenated castor oil or wax into polyalkylene glycol; and

agitating the one or more water soluble polymers, the hydrogenated castor oil or wax, and the polyalkylene glycol until the one or more water soluble polymers are uniformly dispersed in the polyalkylene glycol and the hydrogenated castor wax dissolves.

Claim 77 (previously presented): The method according to claim 76 wherein the water soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of guar, hydroxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, cationic guar, hydrophobically modified guar, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified cationic guar, pectin, alginates, locust bean gum, gum arabic, gum acacia, carrageenan, hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl cellulose, alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, starch, gum tragacanth, gum karaya, tara gum, xanthan gum, welan gum, succinoglucans, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacrylates, and polyacrylamides.

Claim 78 (original): The method according to claim 76 wherein the water-soluble polymer is xanthan gum.

Claim 79 (original): The method according to claim 76 wherein the water-soluble polymer is guar gum.

Claim 80 (original): The method according to claim 76 wherein the water-soluble polymer is cationic-, hydroxyalkyl-, carboxyalkyl-, or carboxyalkylhydroxyalkyl-derivatized guar gum.

Claim 81 (original): The method according to claim 76 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 82 (previously presented): The method according to claim 76 wherein the polyalkylene glycol includes a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 83 (previously presented): The method according to claim 82 wherein the hydrated thickening silicas are selected from the group consisting of colloidal gel silicas and hydrophobic derivatives thereof.

Claim 84 (previously presented): The method according to claim 76 wherein the polyalkylene glycol has a molecular weight of less than 1000.

Claim 85 (original): The method according to claim 76 further comprising the step of dispersing one or more of the following additive materials selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, buffers, surfactants, demulsifiers, non-emulsifiers, foaming agents, antifoaming agents, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, polymer preservatives, bactericides, antioxidants, fluid loss additives, water miscible co-solvents, formation clay stabilizers, crosslinkers, polymer breakers, and gel breakers.

Claim 86 (currently amended): A method of formulating a non-aqueous suspension, comprising ~~the steps~~ of:

dispersing from about 0.1 to 75% suspension weight of one or more water soluble polymers and from about 0.1 to 5.0% suspension weight of a hydrogenated castor oil or wax into from about 20 to 99.8% suspension weight of polyalkylene glycol; and

agitating the one or more water soluble polymers, the hydrogenated castor oil or wax, and the polyalkylene glycol until the one or more water soluble polymers are uniformly dispersed in the polyalkylene glycol and the hydrogenated castor wax dissolves.

Claim 87 (previously presented): The method according to claim 86 wherein the water soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of guar, hydroxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl guar, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, cationic guar, hydrophobically modified guar, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl guar, hydrophobically modified cationic guar, pectin, alginates, locust bean gum, gum arabic, gum acacia, carrageenan, hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, carboxyalkyl cellulose, alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl hydroxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified carboxyalkyl cellulose, hydrophobically modified alkyl ethers of cellulose, hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl methyl cellulose, starch, gum tragacanth, gum karaya, tara gum, xanthan gum, welan gum, succinoglucans, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacrylates, and polyacrylamides.

Claim 88 (original): The method according to claim 86 wherein the water-soluble polymer is xanthan gum.

Claim 89 (original): The method according to claim 86 wherein the water-soluble polymer is guar gum.

Claim 90 (original): The method according to claim 86 wherein the water-soluble polymer is cationic-, hydroxyalkyl-, carboxyalkyl-, or carboxyalkylhydroxyalkyl-derivatized guar gum.

Claim 91 (original): The method according to claim 86 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 92 (previously presented): The method according to claim 86 wherein the polyalkylene glycol further comprises between about 0.1 and 2.0% by weight of the polyalkylene glycol of a thickener selected from the group consisting of partially neutralized polyacrylic acid, hydroxypropyl cellulose, highly substituted hydroxypropyl guar, and hydrated thickening silicas.

Claim 93 (original): The method according to claim 92 wherein the hydrated thickening silicas are selected from the group consisting of colloidal gel silicas and hydrophobic derivatives thereof.

Claim 94 (previously presented): The method according to claim 86 wherein the polyalkylene glycol has a molecular weight of less than 1000.

Claim 95 (original): The method according to claim 86 further comprising the step of dispersing one or more of the following additive materials selected from the group consisting of acids, bases, buffers, surfactants, demulsifiers, non-emulsifiers, foaming agents, antifoaming agents, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, polymer preservatives, bactericides, antioxidants, fluid loss additives, water miscible co-solvents, formation clay stabilizers, crosslinkers, polymer breakers, and gel breakers.

Claim 96 (original): A method of drilling and completing a well, treating a subterranean formation, or displacing hydrocarbons in a hydrocarbon bearing formation with a fluid comprising the steps of:

(a) preparing a non-aqueous suspension, comprising:

(i) one or more water-soluble polymers,

(ii) polyalkylene glycol, and

(iii) a suspension stabilizer comprising an hydrogenated castor oil or wax;

(b) dispersing the non-aqueous suspension in water, thereby forming a fluid; and

(c) introducing the fluid into the well or subterranean formation.

Claim 97 (original): The method according to claim 96 wherein the non-aqueous suspension comprises from about 0.001 to about 10 percent by weight of the total fluid weight.

Claim 98 (original): The method according to claim 96 wherein the water comprises from about 90 to about 99.999 percent by weight of the total fluid weight.